

00009-22 - Key Points on Impacts to Critical Infrastructure, Demonstrations Across Canada - 20 Feb 2022 12:00 EST

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Sent on behalf of Deryck Trehearne, DG GOC

Colleagues,

New information in bold as of 12:00 EST, 20 Feb. Please ensure proper distribution of the KPs to officials with need-to-know.

BLUF

- A heavy police presence remains in downtown Ottawa, actively working to identify and charge protesters, and tow and impound vehicles abandoned in the Secured Area. [Link](#)
- The House of Commons is sitting on 20 Feb and debating on the use of the *Emergencies Act*. Vote is scheduled for the evening of 21 Feb.
- In Canada, all POEs are open. Peaceful protests are happening throughout the country but not affecting POEs.
- Impacts to CI, with live data from the City of Ottawa. [Convoy webmap](#).

IMPACTED AREAS: (Details on Demonstrations in affected cities/regions)

Ottawa, ON:

- Police operation continues today in the Secured Area. Police are informing the public to avoid unnecessary travel in the area. [Link](#)
- A heavy police presence remains in downtown Ottawa, actively working to identify and charge protesters, and tow and impound vehicles abandoned in the Secured Area.
- Several blocks south of Wellington are cleared of protestors with police checkpoints set up to prevent people from returning.

- Several streets have been cleared of transport trucks, vehicles and demonstrators, including Wellington St, Sir John A. Macdonald Parkway and Kent St north of Queen St. Roads that have been cleared remain closed and fences have been erected to 'ensure the ground gained back is not lost'. [Link](#).
- There have been a total of 57 towed vehicles and 191 arrests since the police operation began. [Link](#)
- The House of Commons is sitting again on 20 Feb and debating on the use of the *Emergencies Act*. Vote is scheduled during the evening of 20 Feb.
- The current status of the interprovincial bridges is as follows:
 - o MacDonald Cartier Bridge is open
 - o Alexandra Bridge is closed but southbound lanes are open from 06:00-10:00 on weekdays
 - o Portage Bridge southbound is closed (except for essential workers) while northbound is open but all corridors leading to it are closed
 - o Chaudière Bridge open
 - o Champlain Bridge is open
- NOTAM is in effect for airspace restrictions over Parliament Hill until 28 Feb.

Pacific Highway, BC:

- As of 19 Feb 23:34 EST, operations at the POE have now resumed. RCMP have reopened both northbound and southbound access.

AB:

- On 19 Feb, approx., 1200 demonstrators and 680 vehicles clogged the streets of downtown Edmonton for a fourth consecutive weekend. Police issued 209 traffic enforcement tickets for noise and distracted driving. One person was arrested. [Link](#)

SK:

- Peaceful protests continue, but the protest is not interfering with the operations at the POE.
- TC issued a NOTAM restricting airspace over the protest in North Portal and Northgate, SK. The NOTAM is valid until 25 Feb.

Lacolle, QC:

- As of 20 Feb, 12:00 EST, a planned protest at Lacolle POE did not occur.

Québec:

- Four (4) individuals were arrested on 19 Feb during the protests in Quebec City. On the evening of 19 Feb, thousands of protesters participated in a peaceful, festive and well-organized protest. [Link](#).
- The City of Québec erected a secured zone around its parliamentary buildings.
- The NOTAM restricting airspace near the Jean Lesage International Airport is valid until 00:00 EST on 22 Feb.

WHOLE OF GOVERNMENT RESPONSE:

IMVE:

- As per ITAC:
 - o Individuals seeking to participate in a legitimate protest are distinct from actors espousing violent extremism.

- o The most likely IMVE-related scenario involves an individual or small group using readily available weapons and resources such as knives, firearms, homemade explosives and vehicles in public areas against soft targets, including opposition groups or members of the general public.
- o The increase in violent online rhetoric targeting uniformed personnel is likely not indicative of increased intent by IMVE actors to conduct planned, directed attacks against members of law enforcement. Uniformed personnel are more likely to be targeted because of their accessibility in the course of their duties. The terrorism threat to uniformed personnel remains MEDIUM.
- o IMVE adherents may feel empowered by the level of disorder resulting from the protests. This could lead to individuals vulnerable to extremist messaging to commit isolated acts of violence.

International:

- NSTR

Maritime/CCG:

- NSTR

Foreign Interference:

- s.38
- RRM Canada has observed some images in the discussion surrounding the "Trucker's Convoy" that maybe misleading, falsified or taken out of context. These images are generally associated with narratives claiming that police and other authorities engaged in unlawful behaviour or used excessive force against protesters. At the moment, a significant amount of this engagement is coming from domestic and transnational actors, including ideologically motivated (IM) and conspiracy-driven communities, as well as average users and citizens.
- The discussion surrounding the "Trucker's Convoy" continues to garner international attention in both mainstream and alternative media spheres. This includes engagement from international networks and state-aligned media (e.g. those aligned with the s.38 governments), which continue to operate at low levels compared with overall activity.

Financing:

- FINTRAC is working closely with businesses and its Anti-Money Laundering and Anti-Terrorist Financing Regime partners to implement the [Emergency Economic Measures Order](#). This includes facilitating the registration with FINTRAC of crowdfunding platforms and payment service providers if they are in possession or control of property that is owned, held, or controlled by, or on behalf of, an individual or entity that is engaged, directly or indirectly, in an activity which is prohibited under the [Emergency Measures Regulations](#).

CSISs.38

- No concerns at this time.

SOCIAL MEDIA ANALYSIS:

- Members of the Ottawa blockade that has kept the capital at a standstill for nearly three full weeks are calling the federal government's use of the *Emergencies Act* a scare tactic. [Link](#)

OVERALL ASSESSMENT: (Derived from information available on open sources)

- **Police have regained control of the downtown area. Streets are calm and police presence is high to ensure that the ground gained back is not lost.**
- **Government employees who are required to access the Secured Area in Ottawa are experiencing delays caused by the checkpoints.**

Peter Hoy

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